10/588856 AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 09 AUG 2006.

Docket Number: 060258-0356508 Client Reference: 2040147US//TK/KOP

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of KARI LAITINEN

Group Art Unit:

Application No.:

Examiner:

Filed: August 9, 2006

Confirmation No.:

For: AN ARRANGEMENT IN A MECHANICAL SHAFT SEAL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. As this application was filed after June 30, 2003, no copy of the cited U.S. reference is attached; however, one copy of each foreign reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the references have been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the present application. No certification or fee is required.

These references were cited in either the International Search Report and Written Opinion, dated May 25, 2005 in the corresponding PCT application or in a Finnish Search Report, dated May 31, 2004 in the corresponding Finnish application. Applicant relies upon each English Abstract for a statement of relevance regarding the corresponding foreign reference. The German-language reference has a English machine translation of the reference and Applicant relies upon the translation for a statement of relevance for that reference.

Respectfully Submitted.

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				Application Number	10/588856		
	INFORMATION DIS	CLO	SURE	Filing Date	08/09/2006		
	STATEMENT BY AF	PLI	CANT	First Named Inventor	KARI LAITINEN		
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	(Use as many sheets as ne	cessary)		Examiner Name			
She	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	060258-0356508		

			U.S. PATENT		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (# known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (f known)} US- 4,773,680 US-	09/27/1988	KRUMME	
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			FORE	IGN F	PATENT DOCU	JMENTS		
Examiner	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ (Number ⁴ 'Kind Code ⁵ (If known)		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
Initials*							Τ°	
	A	FR	2.656.667		07/05/1991	GAMBELLI		
	В	JP	62-261764		11/13/1987	HARADA		
	C	SU	1404725	_A1	06/23/1988	SHATAEV et al.		
	D	<u>wo</u>	00/26501		05/11/2000	HEIJNEN		
	Е	DE	90.16.123.8	U1	07/11/1991			X

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Examiner		Date	
Signature		Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.usoc.gcm or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.